Condition of International Airports in the Country

4970. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the international airports in the country are in very bad shape causing disgrace to the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for this shabby maintenance of these airports;

(c) what action is being taken against the defaulting officials in charge of the maintenance of these airports; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve the conditions of these airports *vis-a-vis* the country's image?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to maintain a high standard of facilities at the international airports. However, congestion due to bunching of flights is a problem. Efforts are made to enhance the terminal capacity in the short-term by shifting / re- arranging some of the facilities to reduce congestion. A number of measures are being taken to improve the standard of service and facilities at international airports like expansion of terminal areas, provision of lengthy conveyors and aerobridges and passenger facilitation etc. In the long term perspective, to bring the standard of services at par with international standards, to improve management culture, efficiency and overall productivity, to unlock the potential for economic benefits arising out of well-managed airports and to attract private investment required for achieving these objectives, Government has decided to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable through long term lease. At present, airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have been taken up for this exercise.

Compensation to villagers displaced due to Shamshabad Airport

4971. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether villagers displaced from the proposed international airport at Shamshabad, Andhra Pradesh are demanding compensation and proper rehabilitation from authorities;

(b) whether the villagers are demanding their lands back which has been acquired for construction of the airport; and

(c) if so, what is Government's response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) As per the report of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, 442 families in Galwaguda, Chinna Gollapally and Anantharedy Guda in Ranga Reddy district are being rehabilitated. State Government has considered for providing 250 sq. yds. of land for each affected family. Besides, compensations as per Land Acquisition Act and rehabilitation package have been approved by Government of Andhra Pradesh with an outlay of Rs. 6.00 crores.

Export of subsidised wheat

4972. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is pushing subsidized wheat into world market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the quantity of wheat to be exported and the amount of revenue expected to be generated through this process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Exports of wheat and wheat products are being facilitated by reimbursing certain WTO admissible costs on account of marketing and transport.

(c) It is not possible to estimate the quantity and value of wheat to be exported, as the same would be a function of various factors, including international demand and supply situation.

Package for natural rubber companies

4973. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to announce a package of fresh measures with regard to import of natural rubber with a view to safeguarding the interest of natural rubber growers in the country;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the package announced in this regard; and

(c) to what extent it will help the natural rubber growers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (c) With a view to